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Dated: December 29, 2003

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

(Marco Jimenez)

Docket No.: 199372003500

Client reference: 133054US

(PATENT)

**RECEIVED**

**JAN 13 2004**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

**TC-1700**

In re Patent Application of:  
Takayuki TOSHIMA et al.

Application No.: 09/971,136

Group Art Unit: 1746

Filed: October 3, 2001

Examiner: Frankie L. Stinson

For: SUBSTRATE PROCESSING METHOD AND  
SUBSTRATE PROCESSING APPARATUS

**AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO NON-FINAL OFFICE ACTION**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir:

**INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS**

In response to the Office Action dated August 28, 2003, for which a response was due on November 28, 2003, and for which a one-month extension of time is also requested to extend the time for response from November 28, 2003 to December 29, 2003 (the first business day following December 28, 2003), please amend the above-identified patent application as follows.

## **SUMMARY OF AMENDMENTS**

### **SPECIFICATION**

  X   There are no amendments to the specification.

       Marked up replacement(s) paragraphs are presented in a separate section.

### **CLAIMS**

       There are no amendments to the claims.

  X   A complete listing of all claims ever present in this case in ascending order with status identifier is presented in a separate section.